* Import duty on raw materials such as DMT, PTA and MEG has been reduced from 15% to 10% and for paraxylene from 5% to 2%.
* CENVAT on all man made fibre and yarn has been reduced from 16% to 8% and import duty on all man made fibre and yarns from 15% to 10%.
* The peak rate of *ad-valorem* component of customs duty for all non-agricultural products including textiles has been reduced from 15% to 12.5%.
* Special CVD of 4% has been extended to all goods in order to counter balance various internal taxes like sales tax and VAT and to provide a level playing field to indigenous goods which have to bear these taxes. However, fabrics are exempted from this levy.

(vii) Government has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the textile sector under automatic route.

(viii) For speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.

(ix) Government has launched the Debt Restructuring Scheme w.e.f. Sept., 2003 with the principal objective to permit banks to lend to the textile sector at 8-9% rate of interest.

(x) Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from SSI sector so that large scale investments may be encouraged in these sectors.

(xi) National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has been set up to provide the leadership role in sensitizing the Industry to the concept of value addition by including trained professionals to manage the industry. This has resulted in an increased demand for trained professionals in various sectors servicing the industry.

Unsatisfactory implementation of poverty alleviation programme

†2680. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the poverty alleviation programme is not being run satisfactorily as a result of which amount disbursed for the same is being squandered;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken in that regard by Government during the last two years; and

(c) whether any official has been found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL): (a) According to the financial and physical progress reports received from the State Governments, the performance of the rural development programmes has been found to be satisfactory.

(b) With a view that the programme benefit reaches the target rural households, the Ministry of Rural Development has evolved multi-level and multi tool monitoring mechanism, which includes Periodical Progress Reports received from the States/UTs both off-line and on-line, field visits by Area Officers of the Ministry and discussions with the State Secretaries and with the Project Directors of the District Rural Development Agencies/ Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Parishads/Panchayats, monitoring by the District Level Monitoring agencies and National Level Monitors. Besides, Concurrent Evaluations and Impact Assessment Studies are also conducted to find out more effective ways of achieving the programme objectives. The Ministry of Rural Development has also adopted a four pronged strategy comprising (i) creation of awareness about the schemes (ii) transparency (iii) peoples partnership and (iv) accountability, in order to expedite the works related to all these schemes. District level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees have been reconstituted under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament, to monitor and review of rural development schemes at district level.

(c) The shortcomings in the implementation process and areas of concern are communicated to the concerned State for appropriate action.

Providing funds for potable water

†2681. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India would provide funds for arrangement of potable water in all the rural habitations; and

(b) the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.